

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALGIER 00904 051735Z

47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 (ISO) W

----- 066294

R 051650Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4234

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0904

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA: WHAT RYDBECK DID AND DID NOT SAY

REF: ALGIERS 0891

1. IN LIGHT OF MOROCCAN AND MAURITANIAN REFUSAL TO
RECEIVE UNSYG'S SPECIAL SAHARA REPRESENTATIVE RYDBECK,
WE SUBMIT FOLLOWING VERSION OF WHAT HE SAID ON
CONTROVERSIAL SAHARA SUBJECTS DURING HIS STAY HERE.
THESE COME FROM JOURNALIST WHO HEARD STATEMENTS MADE,
AND WE BELIEVE THEM TO BE ACCURATE.

2. STATUS OF SPAIN VIS-A-VIS SAHARA: ON MARCH 31,
ALGERIAN PRESS CARRIED HEADLINE QUOTING RYDBECK AS
SAYING THAT SPAIN WAS STILL ADMINISTERING POWER IN SAHARA.
THIS "QUOTATION" EMERGED FROM RYDBECK'S RESPONSE TO OPENING
QUESTION ADDRESSED TO HIM BY ALGERIAN NEWSMAN AT AIRPORT
ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 30. NEWSMAN SAID, "DOES
YOUR FIRST STOP AT MADRID CONSTITUTE A REAFFIRMATION
THAT, FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, SPAIN REMAINS ADMINISTERING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ALGIER 00904 051735Z

POWER?" RYDBECK REPLIED, "YES" AND CONTINUED, IN

EFFECT: MY MISSION IS BASED ON UN RESOLUTION 3458 A AND B. SPAIN WAS MENTIONED IN BOTH PARTS OF THAT RESOLUTION. ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN NEW YORK, I AM VISITING ALL POWERS CONCERNED AND INTERESTED IN SAHARA, AND SPAIN IS ONE OF THESE. ACCORDING TO JOURNALIST, RYDBECK'S "YES" WAS CLEARLY ONLY A RHETORICAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ALGERIAN NEWSMAN'S QUESTION, NOT AN AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TO IT.

3. NON-MEETING WITH SAHRAOUI GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES: IN PRESS CONFERENCE DURING HIS STAY IN TINDOUF, RYDBECK WAS ASKED WHETHER HIS FAILURE TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF SAHRAOUI REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT CAME ABOUT AS A RESULT OF INITIATIVE ON HIS PART. RYDBECK RESPONDED TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WAS NOT A QUESTION OF THE SAHRAOUI HAVING ASKED AND HIS HAVING REFUSED TO RECEIVE SAHRAOUI GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES. RATHER, SAHRAOUI THEMSELVES HAD DECIDED NOT TO BRING MATTER UP. RYDBECK SAID HE APPRECIATED THAT THIS WAS DONE IN EFFORT TO AVOID COMPLICATING HIS MISSION. ALGERIAN PRESS DID NOT REPRODUCE THIS EXCHANGE EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT RYDBECK HAD TRIED NOT TO COMPLICATE HIS MISSION.

4. QUESTION OF WHAT RYDBECK DID AND DID NOT SAY DURING VISIT TO ALGERIA SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT TO MOROCCANS. MOROCCAN NEWS AGENCY (MAP) ASKED FOREIGN JOURNALIST HERE FOR VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF RYDBECK'S REMARKS UPON ARRIVAL AT ALGIERS AIRPORT. JOURNALIST CONSIDERED THIS TO BE DIPLOMATIC, RATHER THAN JOURNALISTIC, REQUEST AND THEREFORE DID NOT MEET IT. PARKER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, INDEPENDENCE, VISITS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ALGIER00904
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760128-0125
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760499/aaaadgqb.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ALGIERS 891
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAHARA: WHAT RYDBECK DID AND DID NOT SAY
TAGS: PFOR, AG, SS, (RYDBECK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006